

(b) Parties on whom interrogatories are served shall respond without waiting to be ordered to do so by the Commission. Each interrogatory shall be answered separately and fully in writing under oath or affirmation, unless it is objected to, in which event the reasons for objection shall be stated in lieu of an answer. The answers shall be signed by the person making them. The party on whom the interrogatories were served shall serve a copy of the answers and objections, if any, within 30 days after service of the interrogatories, except that a defendant may serve answers or objections within 15 days after filing its answer to the complaint, whichever period is longer. On proper motion being made, the Commission may allow a shorter or longer time for the filing of answers or objections.

(c) Where the responding party has failed to respond, or has objected, to any interrogatory, the party propounding the interrogatories may, within 15 days of the date the response was due if no response is filed or the date of service of the objection, move to compel a response thereto. The motion should state with specificity the relevance of and necessity for the requested information and must also comply with the requirements of § 1.727 of this part pertaining to motions generally. Alternately, the party may request that answers to interrogatories be discussed during a status conference, pursuant to § 1.733.

(d) Answers to interrogatories shall not be filed with the Commission unless so ordered by the Commission or its staff.

(e) The Commission may in its discretion limit the scope of permissible inquiry so that matters pertaining solely to the amount or computation of damages are not addressed until after a finding of liability has been made against the complainant. Inquiries that relate dually to liability and damages will be permitted during initial discovery conducted during the liability phase. If a bifurcated framework is implemented and a finding of liability is made, the parties shall, within 5 working days, inform the Commission whether they wish to defer damages discovery in order to enter negotia-

tions for the purpose of settling their dispute. If the parties commence settlement negotiations, damages discovery shall not be undertaken prior to 20 days after release of the liability order.

[53 FR 11854, Apr. 11, 1988, as amended at 58 FR 25572, Apr. 27, 1993]

#### **§ 1.730 Other forms of discovery.**

(a) If a party believes it needs to engage in some form of discovery other than by written interrogatories under § 1.729, including but not limited to the production of documents, the taking of depositions, or the propounding of additional interrogatories, the party may file a motion with the Commission requesting that such discovery be permitted. The motion should state with specificity the type of discovery requested, the information which is expected to be elicited, the relevance of such information to the resolution of the proceeding, and must also comply with the requirements of § 1.727 hereof, pertaining to motions generally. Such motions will not be routinely granted except for good cause shown.

(b) The party from whom the discovery is sought may file an opposition to a motion seeking discovery within 10 days after the motion is filed. No reply is permitted.

(c) Motions seeking discovery may be filed only during the period beginning with the service of a complaint and ending 30 days after the date an answer is filed or 15 days after responses to interrogatories under § 1.729 are filed, whichever period is longer, except where the movant demonstrates that the need for such discovery could not, even with due diligence, have been ascertained within this period.

(d) Documents produced through discovery shall not be filed with the Commission unless so ordered by the Commission or its staff.

[53 FR 11854, Apr. 11, 1988, as amended at 58 FR 25572, Apr. 27, 1993]

#### **§ 1.731 Confidentiality of information produced through discovery.**

(a) Any materials generated or provided by a party in response to discovery may be designated as proprietary by that party if the party believes in

good faith that the materials fall within an exemption to disclosure contained in the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1)–(9). Any party asserting confidentiality for such materials shall so indicate by clearly marking each page, or portion thereof, for which a proprietary designation is claimed. If a proprietary designation is challenged, the party claiming confidentiality shall have the burden of demonstrating, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the material designated as proprietary falls under the standards for nondisclosure enunciated in the FOIA.

(b) Materials marked as proprietary may be disclosed solely to the following persons, only for use in prosecuting or defending a party to the complaint action, and only to the extent necessary to assist in the prosecution or defense of the case:

(1) Counsel of record representing the parties in the complaint action and any support personnel employed by such attorneys;

(2) Officers or employees of the opposing party who are named by the opposing party as being directly involved in the prosecution or defense of the case;

(3) Consultants or expert witnesses retained by the parties;

(4) The Commission and its staff; and

(5) Court reporters and stenographers in accordance with the terms and conditions of this section.

(c) These individuals shall not disclose information designated as proprietary to any person who is not authorized under this section to receive such information, and shall not use the information in any activity or function other than the prosecution or defense in the case before the Commission. Each individual who is provided access to the information shall sign a notarized statement affirmatively stating that the individual has personally reviewed the Commission's rules and understands the limitations they impose on the signing party.

(d) No copies of materials marked proprietary may be made except copies to be used by persons designated in paragraph (b) of this section. Each party shall maintain a log recording the number of copies made of all pro-

prietary material and the persons to whom the copies have been provided.

(e) Upon termination of a formal complaint proceeding, including all appeals and petitions, all originals and reproductions of any proprietary materials, along with the log recording persons who received copies of such materials, shall be provided to the producing party. In addition, upon final termination of the complaint proceeding, any notes or other work product derived in whole or in part from the proprietary materials of an opposing or third party shall be destroyed.

[58 FR 25573, Apr. 27, 1993]

#### **§ 1.732 Other required written submissions.**

(a) The Commission may, in its discretion, require the parties to file briefs summarizing the facts and issues presented in the pleadings and other record evidence. These briefs shall contain the findings of fact and conclusions of law which that party is urging the Commission to adopt, with specific citation to the record, and supported by relevant authority and analysis. Absent an order by the Commission that briefs be filed, the parties may voluntarily submit briefs in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section.

(b) In cases when discovery is not conducted, briefs shall be filed concurrently by both complainant and defendant within 90 days from the date a complaint is served. Such briefs shall be no longer than 35 pages.

(c) In cases when discovery is conducted, briefs shall be filed concurrently by both complainant and defendant at such time designated by the staff, typically within 30 days after discovery is completed. Such briefs shall be no longer than 50 pages.

(d) Reply briefs may be submitted by either party within 20 days from the date initial briefs are due. Reply briefs shall be no longer than 20 pages in cases when discovery is not conducted, and 30 pages in cases when discovery is conducted.

(e) Briefs containing information which is claimed by an opposing or third party to be proprietary under § 1.731 shall be submitted to the Commission in confidence pursuant to the